

Training Requirements

By August 8, 2012, the owner or operator of an underground storage tank system must have trained Class A, Class B, and Class C operators for each facility owned. Either a Class A, Class B, or Class C operator must be present onsite during the operation of the tank system. Training of the system operators will be performed through the North Dakota UST Operator Training Program at <https://secure.apps.nd.gov/doh/operator/default.aspx>. Class A or Class B operators are responsible to train the Class C operators.

Unattended Cardtrol Facility

Unattended cardtrol facilities are those where the operation of the tank, including dispensing of fuel, is done without the constant on-site presence of a Class A, Class B, or Class C operator. Examples include unattended service stations, some fleet fueling facilities, and facilities with tanks that serve emergency generators.

A sign at an unattended cardtrol facility must be posted in a conspicuous place, giving the name and telephone number of the facility owner, operator, or local emergency responders in case of an emergency.

Operator Designations

Class A Operators

The Class A operator has primary responsibility to operate and maintain the UST systems. The Class A operator's responsibilities include managing resources and personnel and focusing on the broader aspects of the rules and regulations necessary to operate and maintain the UST systems. The Class A operator typically ensures that appropriate individual(s) are trained to:

- Properly operate and maintain the UST system;
- Maintain appropriate records;
- Properly respond to emergencies caused by releases or spills from UST systems at the facility; and
- Make financial responsibility documents available to the department.

Operator Designations

Class A Operators

The Class A operator ***must be trained*** with a general knowledge of UST system requirements so they can make informed decisions regarding compliance and ensure appropriate individuals are fulfilling operation, maintenance, and recordkeeping requirements and standards regarding: spill prevention, overfill prevention, release detection, corrosion protection, emergency response, product compatibility, financial responsibility documentation requirements, notification requirements, release and suspected release reporting, temporary and permanent closure requirements, and operator training requirements.

Operator Designations

Class B Operators

The Class B operator implements the day-to-day aspects of operating, maintaining, and recordkeeping for USTs at one or more facilities. The Class B operator typically monitors, maintains, and ensures:

- Leak detection methods, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements are met;
- All relevant equipment complies with performance standards; and
- Appropriate individuals are trained to properly respond to emergencies caused by releases or spills from UST systems at the facility.

Operator Designations

Class B Operators

The Class B operator must receive a broader training regarding regulatory requirements that encompass components of the UST methods of leak detection and leak prevention. In addition, the Class B operator must oversee the operation and maintenance requirements that apply to UST systems including spill prevention, overfill prevention, release detection, corrosion protection, emergency response, product compatibility, reporting and recordkeeping, and Class C operator training.

Operator Designations

Class C Operators

The Class C operator is an employee that is the first line of response to events involving emergency conditions. They are present on-site daily, except at unattended cardtrol facilities - which must have a posted sign. They are responsible for responding to alarms and other indications of emergencies caused by spills or releases from UST systems. The Class C operator notifies the Class B or Class A operator and appropriate emergency responders when necessary.

Not all employees of the facility are necessarily Class C operators. This individual typically:

- Controls or monitors the dispensing or sale of regulated substances, or
- Is responsible for initial response to alarms or releases.

At a minimum, the Class C operator ***must be trained*** to take action in response to emergency situations posing an immediate danger or threat to the public or environment. They must know who to contact and how to respond to leak detection alarms caused by spills or releases from an UST system.

Operator Designations

Class C Operators

The Class C operator does **NOT** need to be trained as an emergency medical technician, firefighter, or hazardous material spill cleanup specialist. They **DO** need to know how to recognize problems, how to quickly shut down the fuel-dispensing system, and who to call (e.g., fire, police, ambulance, facility management personnel) in emergency situations.

The Class C operator must be trained by a Class A or Class B operator **BEFORE** assuming responsibility for the tank system. Proof of training must be kept at the facility and produced during North Dakota Department of Health inspections.

Operator Designations

Class C Operators

At a minimum, the Class C operator should be trained on:

- What is a reportable spill or release?
- Fuel Pump emergency Shut-offs: Location(s) and Usage
- Leak Detection Console: Warnings, Alarms and Response
- Responding to Spills: Who to Call
- Responding to Spills: Absorbents – Locations, Use and Disposal
- Recognizing potential problems with the UST system (e.g., nozzle not shutting off properly, leaky dispenser hose, strong gasoline smell from a dispenser, etc.)

A Class C Operator Training [checklist](#) and [handout](#) can be downloaded on the North Dakota Department of Health website at <http://www.ndhealth.gov/wm/Publications>.